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MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE GEORGE P. SHULTZ
The Secretary of StateSUBJECT: Diplomatic Requirements for US International
Broadcasting (U)

The importance of international broadcasting as an element of US foreign and national security policy has been emphasized in a number of Presidential statements, and technical modernization and expansion of our broadcasting capabilities is accorded high priority in National Security Decision Memorandum 45 and in the NSC study, "US International Broadcasting Requirements," on which it is based. In particular, NSDD 45 states: "Diplomatic requirements deriving from this modernization and expansion program shall be given a high priority by the Department of State. Acquisition of new transmitting sites and facilities should be a priority matter on the political agenda of bilateral relations with appropriate countries. Attention should also be given to renewal of facility agreements which have lapsed, with permission for augmentation as necessary, and to negotiation for the use of out-of-band frequencies." (S)

Further study of technical parameters relative to the location of new transmitting facilities has led to some modifications in the projected modernization and expansion program. In order to begin implementation of this program as rapidly as possible, and to make necessary adjustments in agency budget submissions for FY 1984, it is essential that the Department of State assist the United States Information Agency and the Board for International Broadcasting in carrying out assessments of the availability of new broadcasting sites and facilities in critical regions, as well as of tenure prospects of current sites and facilities. (S)

A preliminary review of possible host nations for new sites in the Middle East, South Asia and East Asia has been undertaken by USIA in consultation with BIB, the Department of State, and the NSC Staff. As a result of this review, the Department of State is authorized and requested to approach the governments of Turkey, Israel, Oman, Bangladesh, Thailand, Japan and the Republic

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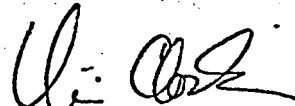
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of Korea in order to ascertain their attitude toward the possibility of new or expanded sites or facilities for international broadcasting by US Government entities from their territories. These approaches should be undertaken at the earliest possible date, and at a sufficiently high level to impress on these countries the importance the US Government attaches to this matter. (S)

General parameters of the sites or facilities requested of particular governments will be provided separately. Sites or facilities should be sought for joint use by the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, except for the potential South Asian site (Bangladesh or Thailand), where VOA alone would be involved. In the case of Israel, our priority requirement should be to obtain facilities -- including lease of air time on Israeli transmitters -- for broadcast to Soviet Central Asia in the shortest possible time. It should be made clear in response to queries that host nations can have no right to review or affect programming prior to its broadcast, though selected materials may be made available subsequently if required. Governments may be given to understand that we are prepared to consider appropriate forms of compensation. (S)

In addition, it is requested that the Department undertake a comprehensive review of diplomatic requirements and constraints relative to current and prospective US international broadcasting activities in Europe and the Mediterranean. Specifically, an assessment should be undertaken of political conditions in Greece, Spain and Morocco as they affect current US facilities in those countries and prospects for possible modernization/expansion, and recommendations made regarding the desirability of seeking renegotiation of lapsed agreements with the governments of Greece and Spain. The likely attitude of the United Kingdom toward the US broadcasting presence following the expiration of the current agreement should also be considered. Potential host nations for new sites or facilities should also be identified, with particular attention being given to Spain, Italy and Ireland. (S)


William P. Clark

cc: The Secretary of Defense
The Director of Central Intelligence
Director, United States Information Agency
Chairman, Board for International Broadcasting

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